

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-19 (Cancelled)

20. (previously presented) A method of manufacturing a coated steel wire having a bright looking surface, said method comprising the following steps:

(a) providing a steel core;

(b) coating said steel core with an intermediate coating layer;

(c) giving a degree of brightness to said intermediate coating by drawing said coated steel core;

(d) using a transparent thermoplastic polyester;

(e) further coating said bright steel core with an intermediate coating layer with said polyester, wherein said polyester is immediately disposed on said intermediate coating layer.

21. (previously presented) A method according to claim 20,

wherein said coating with said intermediate coating layer is done by a hot dip operation.

22. (previously presented) A method according to claim 20,

said method further comprising the step of coloring said polyester.

23. (previously presented) A method according to claim 20,

wherein said giving of a degree of brightness to said intermediate coating is done by wet drawing.

24. (previously presented) A method according to claim 20,

wherein said further coating with a polyester is done by an extrusion process.

25. (previously presented) A steel wire having a coating having a bright looking surface, comprising:

a drawn wire, said drawn wire including a steel core covered with an intermediate coating layer, said intermediate coating layer having a bright looking surface; and

a polyester coating immediately upon said intermediate coating, said polyester being transparent.

26. (previously presented) A steel wire according to claim 25, said polyester comprising a transparent coloring agent.

27. (currently amended) A steel wire according to claim 25, wherein said polyester is a thermoplastic polyester selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene ~~terephthalate~~ terephthalate and polyethylene ~~naphthenate~~ naphthenate.

28. (currently amended) A steel wire according to claim 27, wherein said thermoplastic polyester is polyethylene ~~terephthalate~~ terephthalate.

29. (previously presented) A steel wire according to claim 26, wherein said coloring agent is organic.

30. (previously presented) A steel wire according to claim 26, wherein said intermediate coating is a metallic coating comprising at least one of a copper coating, a copper alloy coating, a zinc coating, a zinc alloy coating, a nickel coating, a nickel alloy coating, a tin coating and a tin alloy coating.

31. (previously presented) A steel wire according to claim 25, wherein said intermediate coating is a coating comprising at least one of a copper-tin sulfate coating and a copper-sulfate coating.

32. (previously presented) A method of manufacturing a coated steel wire having a bright looking surface, said method comprising:

(a) providing a steel core;

(b) coating said steel core with an intermediate coating layer;

(c) drawing said coated steel core to obtain a bright looking surface; and

(d) immediately depositing on said intermediate coating layer a transparent polyester to coat said intermediate coating layer of said steel core.

33. (previously presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein said coating said steel core with said intermediate coating layer is performed by a hot dip operation.

34. (previously presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein said method further comprises coloring said polyester.

35. (previously presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein said bright looking surface is obtained by wet drawing.

36. (previously presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein depositing the polyester is performed by an extrusion process.

37. (previously presented) A method according to claim 20,

further comprising, after completing at least one of steps (c) and (e), quantifying the degree of brightness based on at least one of the peripheral roughness of the steel wire and the L-value of the steel wire.

38. (previously presented) A method according to claim 32,

further comprising, after completing at least one of actions (c) and (d), quantifying the degree of brightness based on at least one of the peripheral roughness of the steel wire and the L-value of the steel wire.

39. (previously presented) The steel wire according to claim 25, wherein a peripheral roughness of the intermediate coating layer provides the bright looking surface.

40. (cancelled)